

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 /095 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:RTWILLNER:PAW

APPROVED BY EA:LEEDMOND

EA/PHL:BAFLECK

EB/GCP:HCBLACK

USDA/FAS:GWHITE (DRAFT)

STR:SLANDE

COMMERCE:OTP/DND:JJ0HNSTON

COMMERCE:OTP/LTP:AGARCIA

NSC:KQUINN

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O 280030Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

USDEL MTN GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 048441

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ETRD, RP

SUBJECT:BILATERAL ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS

REF: MANILA 2242

1. TROPICAL PRODUCTS OFFER LIST TO BE TABLED MARCH 1 WILL
INCLUDE PRODUCTS OF IMPORTANCE TO U.S.-PHILIPPINE TRADE, IN-
CLUDING HARDWOOD PRODUCTS AND COCONUT OIL. THIS LIST REPRE-
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SENTS A FORMAL OFFER TO NEGOTIATE ON THE ITEMS NOTED.

2. WHEN TP LIST IS GIVEN TO GOP DELEGATION, MTN DEL SHOULD POINT OUT TO GOP DEL AND EMBASSY SHOULD ADVISE GOP THAT LIST CONTAINS ITEMS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE IN PHILIPPINE-U.S. TRADE, AND THAT WE PLAN THAT TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PHILIPPINES SHOULD BEGIN IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUR BROADER BILATERAL ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS. ANY FURTHER PHILIPPINE INQUIRIES REGARDING OUR APPROACH SHOULD FOR THE PRESENT BE ANSWERED WITH EXPLANATION THAT WE PLAN TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN RESPONSE TO PHILIPPINE TRADE REQUESTS BOTH IN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND IN THE TP GROUP, BUT THAT EXTENT OF OUR CONCESSIONS WILL NATURALLY DEPEND ON PHILIPPINES BEING EQUALLY FORTHCOMING ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO U.S. IN BOTH FORUMS.

3. FYI. WE DO NOT WISH GOP TO BELIEVE IT CAN OBTAIN ITS PRINCIPAL TRADE OBJECTIVES IN MTN WITHOUT RESPONDING TO MAJOR U.S. ECONOMIC INTERESTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HOPE TO HAVE PHILIPPINE PARTICIPATION IN A FINAL TP PACKAGE BECAUSE WE WISH TO ENCOURAGE GOP ADHERENCE TO GATT. OFFERS ON COCONUT OIL WILL BE CONDITIONAL ON CONCESSIONS BEING OBTAINED ON SOYBEANS AND SOYBEAN PRODUCTS. END FYI.

4. WE ARE SOMEWHAT PUZZLED BY VEGA'S QUESTIONS REGARDING U.S. EXPECTATIONS. WHILE THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME CHANGES IN OUR SPECIFIC TRADE DESIRES SINCE JULY 1974, OUR BASIC POSITION REMAINS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AND WE AWAIT PHILIPPINE RESPONSE TO PRESENTATIONS MADE AT THAT TIME. WE, OF COURSE, WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO MEETING WITH VEGA IF HE DECIDES TO VISIT U.S. AT THAT TIME, HOWEVER, WE COULD DO LITTLE MORE THAN INFORM HIM OF OUR POSITION AS OUTLINED ABOVE.

5. REQUEST EMBASSY MANILA INCLUDE MTN GENEVA ON ALL FUTURE TELEGRAMS ON BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS.

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